



Prescription Drug Core Group Meeting

January 16, 2018

1:00 p.m.

Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family – Conference Room B

1700 West Washington Street, Suite 230, Phoenix, Arizona 85007

A general meeting of the Prescription Drug Core Group convened on January 16, 2018 at the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family, Conference Room B, 1700 West Washington Street, Suite 230 Phoenix, Arizona 85007.

Members Present (9)

Sheila Sjolander, Chairman, Arizona Department of Health Services

Chief Thomas Kelly, Apache Junction Police Department (via phone)

Jacqueline Kurth, Industrial Commission of Arizona

Alexa Ballesteros, High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area

Brett Klein, High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area

Michelle Skurka, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (via phone)

Doug Skvarla, Arizona Board of Pharmacy

Tomi St. Mars, Arizona Department of Health Services

Catie Clark, Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Staff/Guests Present (7)

Dawna Allington, Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family

Lindsay Cotton, Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family

Sonya Pierce-Johnson, Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family

Tracy Cruickshank, Maricopa County Department of Public Health

Lacie Ampadu, Arizona Department of Health Services

Al Lauria, High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area

Cindi Hunter, Arizona Board of Pharmacy

Members Absent (1)

Travis Williams, Arizona Attorney General's Office

Call to Order

- **Sheila Sjolander, Chairman**, called the Prescription Drug Core Group meeting to order at 1:01 pm with nine (9) members and seven (7) staff and guests present.

Welcome/Introductions

- **Sheila Sjolander, Chairman**, welcomed everyone and asked them to introduce themselves.

Approval of Minutes

- Minutes for the meeting held November 9, 2017, were reviewed. **Sheila Sjolander, Chairman**, proposed three changes to the minutes. **Tomi St. Mars** made a motion to approve the minutes with the suggested edits. The motion was seconded by **Chief Thomas Kelly** and approved by all.

Updates on DumptheDrugs

- **Lacie Ampadu** began by sharing that the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) website, DumptheDrugs, lists all current information on prescription drug drop boxes that are installed throughout the state. Ms. Ampadu worked with Ms. Lindsay Cotton to collect updates on the boxes' location, hours of operation, and available phone numbers. ADHS has included an added tutorial on how to use the site, as

well as a printable list of the 162 boxes categorized by county. ADHS updated their contact information for the public and created a link to DumptheDrugs on the ADHS opioid website.

- **Sheila Sjolander, Chairman**, inquired as to whether other pharmacies, similar to Walgreens, have implemented drug take-back programs.
- **Doug Skvarla** responded that he did not know, but he could follow up with his colleagues.
- **Tomi St. Mars** suggested that on the DumptheDrugs website, ADHS include a statement near the bottom link for agencies and pharmacies wanting to add their drop box to the database.

HIDTA OD Mapping Tool

- **Alexa Ballesteros** shared that the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) created their overdose monitoring system in response to the nationwide opioid crisis. The tool, utilized by over 250 agencies located with 21 states, is free of charge to first responders and government agencies. Using smartphone technology, first responders enter in the details of the overdose incident (location, naloxone administered, etc.) to reflect real-time data. Ms. Ballesteros reviewed the HIDTA map with commissioners, showing that the data cannot only be filtered by overdose outcome and number of naloxone doses used, but also by county. The goal of the project is to identify strategies to decrease the rate of overdoses across the country.
- **Tomi St. Mars** inquired how the tool is being marketed to emergency medical services (EMS).
- **Alexa Ballesteros** responded that the tool is very new, and its use will be promoted by HIDTA representatives in the future.
- **Sheila Sjolander, Chairman**, inquired where the data comes from. She also voiced concern over the fact that ADHS is already inputting data that gauges overdoses in Arizona, furthermore asking how HIDTA will avoid duplicating efforts.
- **Alexa Ballesteros** replied that the data is gathered from first responders. Ms. Ballesteros said the goal is to meet with ADHS representatives to discuss possible collaboration. She maintained that HIDTA's tool is useful because it shows the data from a national standpoint.
- **Brett Klein** added that it is important to discuss the issue from a policy perspective. He also noted that the HIDTA tool is probably more effective at assessing data from metropolitan areas.

Rx Toolkit – Additional Opioid Documents

- **Sheila Sjolander, Chairman**, highlighted the importance of updating the Arizona Rx Drug Misuse and Abuse Initiative Toolkit on a regular basis. Last revised in 2016, Ms. Sjolander suggested that the group integrate resources provided from the ADHS opioid website. Commissioners reviewed the site, and Ms. Sjolander asked everyone to consider possible additions from a community perspective, given that the toolkit is marketed to the public. Attachments recommended for toolkit inclusion were: list of brand and generic names for opioids, naloxone order form for first responder agencies, opioid prescribing guidelines (updated December 2017), opioid policy documents for employers, neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) guidelines, and infographics (targeting law enforcement, first responders, and correction facilities). Other suggestions included information on workers' compensation.
- **Dawna Allington** advocated for the inclusion of formal state documents (i.e. state of emergency proclamation, executive order of enhanced surveillance advisory, etc.), stating that community coalitions will better understand the state's climate and stance on opioids.
- **Tomi St. Mars** suggested that the formation of a mobile app would be beneficial to disseminate toolkit materials.
- **Doug Skvarla** stated the group needs to focus on helping medical practitioners communicate with their clients and to the public.

Agency / Partner Updates

- **Jacqueline Kurth** shared that on December 21, 2017, the Industrial Commission of Arizona approved the expansion of treatment guidelines. Ms. Kurth further said that Senator Fann dropped a bill that addresses workers' compensation, opioid dispensing limitations, and medication taper plans.

- **Doug Skvarla** shared that Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) Task Force has convened two meetings. Mr. Skvarla said that their priorities are to develop a consistent message to be used by other agencies, and conduct more outreach, educating prescribers within the community. He also noted that roughly one-quarter of Arizona prescribers have not registered through the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program (CSPMP).
- **Tomi St. Mars** talked about the development of the Drug Overdose Mortality Team. In response to annual reports of roughly 1400 Arizona opioid-related deaths, ADHS has worked to develop local teams to perform examinations. Meetings will take place every other month, and personnel plans to first examine victims that have overdosed multiple times. The goal of the reviews is to identify system failures and recommend solutions.
- **Dawna Allington** informed the group that she will be doing a presentation next meeting that discusses the responsibilities of the Strategic Targeted Response (STR) position.
- **Brett Klein** highlighted the upcoming Arizona Opioid Summit, taking place on February 14, 2018. Mr. Klein shared that scholarships are still available for those who do not have the funds to attend, and said the three-day conference is open to clinicians, first responders, all interested parties, etc. He also noted that HIDTA is configuring all 2017 drug statistics to compile an annual threat report. The report is likely to be published mid-2018.
- **Catie Clark** stated that Ms. Carlena Orosco has resigned from her position at the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, and therefore, the Rx Core Group. Ms. Clark said that she be filling Ms. Orosco's role as a commissioner, and will also be assuming other duties as the new chairman of the Arizona Substance Abuse Epidemiology Work Group.
- **Michelle Skurka** shared that the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) is finalizing interstate agreements (ISAs) for developing an opioid call service system and insurance parity. AHCCCS has also received five requests from the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to create additional medical units throughout the state.
- **Sheila Sjolander, Chairman**, provided GOYFF updates in place of staff representative, Mr. Samuel Burba. GOYFF has filmed several Arizona public service announcements in collaboration with Cox Communications that address issues with substance abuse. They will air through the 2018 calendar.

Future Meeting Dates

- Next meeting is scheduled for:
 - Tuesday, February 27, 2018, from 1:00pm to 3:00pm.

Future Agenda Items

- Commission members will listen to a presentation from Dawna Allington on the STR grant and position responsibilities.
- The group thought it would also be useful to discuss the future implementation of Governor Ducey's proposed opioid legislation, which is expected to pass.

Adjourn

- **Sheila Sjolander, Chairman**, called for a motion to adjourn.
- **Jacqueline Kurth** moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:21 pm. Motion was seconded by **Brett Klein**. Meeting was adjourned at 2:21 pm.